

HA-1597

Flottesch Farm Site  
Magnolia, Maryland

Capsule-Summary

This farm site has been abandoned for a number of years: in fact the main house burned down some time ago, and the remaining outbuildings have been the targets of vandals. At one time, this was a typical family farming operation, and the family was involved in vegetable canning to some extent. The land is apparently going to become the site of residential development, the same thing that has happened to much of the surrounding farmland in this part of Harford County.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Flottesmesch Farm Site

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

northeast corner of Hanson Road and Magnolia Road (MD 152)

CITY, TOWN

Magnolia

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☒ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Hanson Partnership

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Suite 204 Heaver Plaza

CITY, TOWN

Lutherville, Maryland 21093

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 1060

Folio #: 436 also 988/752

STREET &amp; NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

HA-1597

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This site is located at the northeastern corner of the intersection of Magnolia Road (MD 152) and Hanson Road, in the vicinity of Magnolia. This site has been abandoned for a number of years, and consequently the remaining structures have been the target of vandals. Only the day before the site was recorded (18 January, 1981), the fire department had responded to extinguish a blaze that consumed the pumphouse. A nearby long time resident of the area, Mr. Thomas "Earl" Hanson (~~see HA-1597~~) reported that the main house had burned some time ago.

During a brief examination of the site, the following observations were made.

Main House -- only a few charred timbers and the basement walls remain here. The house was fairly large, approximately 25 feet wide by 45 feet deep, with a full basement of fieldstone walls. The house was situated atop a rise accessible via a lane running east from Magnolia Road. The house lot was clearly delineated by two large evergreen trees, as well as other deliberately planted hardwood trees nearby. The house probably faced west.

To the south of the house were a number of farm buildings, all in varying states of disrepair.

Dairy Barn -- this measures 36 feet wide by 65 feet long, with a center drive on the shorter side and 10 windows on the long side. It is constructed of concrete blocks and has a gambrel roof. Inside are milking stalls. Attached at the northwest corner is a small cinderblock gambrel roof shed that held cooling and pumping machinery. This structure typifies dairy barn construction from the 1940's in its architecture and its work layout.

Shed -- measures 14' X 26' This building has hewn posts and beams, and sills, but the rest of the structure is of modern materials, including a cinder block foundation and wire nails. Large mortises were visible in the sills, which were lapped at the corners. The older materials undoubtedly came from an earlier building on the site.

Crib -- 30' X 20'2" This structure rests on concrete piers and is constructed of circular sawn wood, with a metal covered gambrel roof. Posts are 6" X 6" and cross pieces are 4" X 4". There is a 1" airspace between the boards of the floor and the exterior walls. The latter are of 1" X 10" material. This building had been badly damaged by fire.

Pumphouse -- 19' X 15'6" This building burned, leaving only the foundation and some framework. Apparently, all framing was circular sawn, with mortise and tenon joints at the corner posts. Cut nails were found in the rafter ends. The foundation was of brick.

Equipment shed -- This stands north of the house and was of modern materials; all circular sawn framing with a metal roof. There are 4 open bays, which face south.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	None	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	None
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This former farm complex, still surrounded by producing corn fields, is slated to become the site of a residential development. This has been a common trend in this area (greater Edgewood-Magnolia), as well as other parts of Harford County, which is an accurate reflection not only on the economic pressures bearing on twentieth century farmers, but of changing land uses as well.

Examining the buildings in their state of dis-repair tells us little except that this was a typical evolutionary farm site. The transition in outbuilding construction from frame/post and beam to cinder block was observed, indicating a desire on the part of the farm manager to modernize and keep abreast of changing farming/dairying methods. It is ironic that the stylish gambrel roof barn is now itself somewhat outmoded, having fallen victim to technological changes in less than 50 years. The same could be said of the relatively small family farming operation as well.

According to one lifelong resident of the area, Mrs. Blanche Fletcher (HA-1570), the Flottesmesch family once ran a canning factory here, and brought in people from Baltimore City (via the Pennsylvania Railroad) to work during the peak season. It is difficult in 1981 to even imagine such things occurring anymore: that way of life has vanished as certainly as these old farm buildings.

NOTE-

No photos or slides available. See the Harford County Planning Department aerial photos in the Zoning Office for pictorial reference.

Title search not done at this time.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Phillip Lord / Historic Sites Surveyor

March 1981

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 X235

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air Maryland 21014

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Edgewood  
USGS  
QUAD

WHITE MARSH 4.4 MI.

POPLAR 6.4 MI.  
4 MI. TO MARYLAND 149

25'

4363

4362

570 000  
FEET

4361

HA-1597

